

Homecoming Edition



The McDougal's Face-off

See Page 8



Live on the Green Draws Rave Reviews

See Page 18

The Bell Ringer

Montgomery Bell Academy 4001 Harding Road Nashville, TN October 2, 2015 Vol. LXXII, No. 2

Coach O'Neal Bids Farewell



Trophies line the hall outside Coach O'Neal's office. His passion for both coaching and teaching will be missed dearly.

By: Joseph Scowden
Features Editor

The tenure of Mr. Scott O'Neal has been impressive. During his time at MBA, he has served as an English teacher, a football coach, and finally, Athletic Director, a position he will step down from early in October. This past week, *The Bell Ringer* had the chance to conduct a final interview with him and discuss his experience at MBA.

BR: After graduating from MBA, where did you go and how did you work your way back to MBA?

ON: After graduating, I went to Vanderbilt, where I was an assistant strength and conditioning coach. Following that job, I worked for my family's floral business for

12 years. However, my love of coaching high school sports always stuck with me. So, while I was working with my family, I coached Harpeth Hall cross country, Harpeth Hall basketball, and was also a TSSAA football official. I definitely stayed involved in the athletic world.

After our family business was sold, I approached Mr. Gioia for a job at MBA, with the hope that I could coach football and teach English. I eventually took a job in the Development office working with the annual fund. My business and marketing experience really helped me with that. After about a year of working up in Ball, I took a job as the director of Alumni Development. I also worked with multiple sports during that time, including track and strength and

conditioning. When I was offered the job as Athletic Director, it was a pretty natural transition for me, given my previous work in various aspects of campus life.

BR: In the adult world, Athletic Director is an esteemed title, but to many students, it seems quite vague. In your opinion, what is the true role of an Athletic Director?

ON: In my opinion, the AD is just the man who works behind the scenes so that the coaches can actually coach. At MBA, athlete is a part of our ideal; every student on campus has to be involved in some sort of sport. The AD's job of managing

>>Continued on Page 9

Debate Squad Prepares for a Strong Year

By: Andrew Kaplan
News Editor

Often overlooked as a speech activity comprised of senseless arguing, policy debate may not be well understood on The Hill. So before getting familiar with the names and faces of the MBA Debate Team, it is important to understand how policy debate works and how its year-long season, comprised of seemingly endless tournaments, functions.

Policy debate is the most prestigious form of debate at both the high school and college levels. Other forms of debate are simply speech activities—not "debate" per se. Policy debate consists of two debaters on each team squaring off in a round. Each year, the high school policy debate community is presented with a topic resolution—a policy action to be resolved in some way by the affirmative team. This topic remains the same throughout the year, across the country. For example, the 2015-2016 season's topic is "Resolved: The United States Federal Government Should Substantially Curtail its Domestic Surveillance."

Two teams then face off in a policy debate round—an affirmative team and a negative team. The affirmative team presents a policy option in the round that, in some way, affirms the resolution. In response, the negative team counters with a variety of disadvantages, better policy options that resolve similar issues, or general critiques of the affirmative team's representation of the policy action. The debates have a structured series of speeches with time limits, interspersed with cross examinations. In order to forward arguments in the debate, debaters present evidence taken from any variety of sources, such as an online article or an excerpt from a book. As a result, debaters not only have to refine their speaking

>>Continued on Page 2

JUST GLASS Opens New Service Doorways

By: Philip Scholer
Staff Writer

Just Glass is a nonprofit organization started by a group of individuals wanting to make a difference who realized that Nashville had limited glass recycling programs. These motivated public servants decided not to stand idle while this need to recycle existed in the Nashville community.

To add to its mission, Just Glass makes a point of aiding the unemployed and homeless in Nashville to find or maintain a job. In this way, the organization aims to uplift citizens who are down on their luck and in need of a steady source of income.

Although MBA students have already heard a little about the program, *The Bell Ringer* sat down with Troy Jiang, Service Club president and one of the project's leaders at MBA, to learn more.

BR: You wanted to make service more fun and meaningful for students. How has the Service Club worked towards this goal so far?

TJ: We are on our way. First, we try to let MBA students realize the real purpose of doing service projects. Introducing new projects

like Just Glass helps the MBA Service Club have a larger impact on our community. Just Glass not only has a positive impact on our environment but also helps many people become employed. This is something the MBA Service Club has not achieved before.

As I said in assembly, it takes a huge step to make our community better, but the purpose of the MBA Service Club is to make every single small step contribute to "the big step." We are reorganizing some of our projects to make them more enjoyable for MBA volunteers. At this moment, I'd love not to tell specifically how we are reorganizing, as we really want it to be a surprise when people volunteer. But I promise, it is all happening

now. We are moving toward where we planned to go, not only because of me, but also all our faculty members, especially Ms. Williams and Dr. Fuller, our project managers and our participants. We are going to have a great year.

BR: What does Just Glass mean for you?

TJ: To me, it kills three birds with one stone. First, it is good for our environment to recycle. Second, it helps people who are having trouble finding and holding a job. Third, it helps MBA fundraising so we can keep other Service Club projects running.

BR: How do you think Just Glass will impact the MBA service club?

TJ: This program helps the MBA

Service Club become an organization that is more influential in helping people and our community, which is our main goal. And I hope some of us will enjoy the Casual Day, Skittles, and the priceless picture with Mr. Gioia.

As Jiang notes, the winner of the Just Glass competition will receive a large jar of Skittles and a coveted picture with Mr. Gioia. In order to participate, one must sign up for the program and sign up family members and friends as well. The cost for glass recycling per month is just \$14 a month, and \$3 of this fee every month goes back to the MBA service club. Recycle, Red, Recycle!



>>> DEBATE, PAGE 1

skills, but also have to become proficient researchers along the way. At the end of the debate round, the judge, or judges, depending on how significant the round is, will decide which team won the debate and assign points, ranging from 25-30, to each debater individually, based on his or her performance in the round.

At most varsity policy debate tournaments, there are six preliminary rounds. After these six rounds, depending on the strength of the tournament (based on a variety of factors including number of teams, elite quality of teams, etc.), there is a series of elimination rounds. Seeding the preliminary rounds, the top teams break into a bracket of the top teams—usually 16 or 32, depending on the tournament. Seeded by record and then by speaker points, the teams debate in front of panels of judges in order to advance to the next round. Varsity tournaments often have more than 150 teams, so making it into elimination rounds is quite a feat.

Unlike most sports on campus, the debate season takes place during the entire school year, with the national championship tournaments in the late spring. Different tournaments have different amounts of prestige

associated with them. Throughout the year, students vie to qualify for the Tournament of Champions (TOC) that takes place in April. In order to qualify for the TOC, individual teams from schools must make it to a certain level of elimination round depending on the tournament in order to receive a TOC "bid." Once a team receives two TOC bids, they are guaranteed entry into the TOC. MBA has not qualified a team to the TOC since 2012. In 1999, MBA won the Tournament of Champions (a.k.a. the debate national championship). This championship duo included one of MBA's current debate coaches, Robbie Quinn.

The 2015-2016 debate season is well underway. At its highest level, debate can be a grueling activity. With tournaments every weekend, it is as large time commitment, possibly more than any other activity at MBA. Having already travelled to tournaments at Wake Forest, Emory, Dallas, Atlanta, and other places this year, the Big Red has been extremely busy. But many find the process rewarding, explains MBA Director of Debate, Kevin Hamrick: "While it can be a juggling act in terms of personal lives and classroom responsibilities, the tournament experience is still rewarding. The competitive vibe of

so many smart people in one place competing keeps me coming back."

No tournament is more valued than MBA's own Billy Tate Southern Bell Forum. Known as the "national championship of the first semester," the Southern Bell Forum takes place on the last weekend of the MBA winter break. For years, Mr. Tate and others worked tirelessly to create a dynamic tournament environment with the best degree of competition. As varsity debate coach Josh Clark explains, "The Southern Bell is the tournament that is looked forward to most by its competitors. The level of hospitality and concentration of amazing competition make it a tournament without parallel." Teams from all around the country cherish the opportunity to compete in the tournament, as it is known to be the most competitive of the year.

This year's MBA debate team is loaded with young talent. Since the arrival of Coach Josh Clark to Nashville less than three years ago, the team has begun to bring in younger debaters, giving them experience from a very young age. As a result, the team is beginning to succeed at the highest level. At the Greenhill Fall Classic in Dallas in September, the Big Red sent three teams to the tournament and experienced great success. This success

makes Coach Clark optimistic about the season. "This past weekend we were the only team to have three teams advance to the elimination rounds at the Greenhill School tournament," says Clark. "What's more exciting is that those debaters were four juniors, a sophomore and a ninth grader. The future looks bright." These debaters were Ben Rosenthal, Andrew Kaplan, Liam Jameson, John Cooper, Atticus Glen, and Ben Jablonski. Coach Hamrick is also extremely upbeat. When asked what excited him most about the MBA debate program right now, Hamrick responded: "Our depth. We have a stable of national championship-caliber talent. It is going to be great fun to see that talent yield results."

If you know nothing about MBA debate, wander into the squad room on the first floor of Lowry sometime and check out what is going on. Thanks to Mr. Gioia and the school, the debaters enjoy an extremely well-furnished set of rooms that allow the team to do research and practice debating at any time of day. With great facilities and top-notch in-house coaching from Quinn, Clark, and Hamrick, the team is poised to have its best season in years.

Boy's School Conference Worth the Trip

By: Joseph Spear
Staff Writer

Over the summer, nine MBA faculty members traveled to the distant land of South Africa to attend the annual Boys School Conference, making lasting connections that will serve to benefit the MBA community for many years to come.

The Bell Ringer spoke with Mr. Norton to hear his reflections on the trip.

BR: Could you give me an overview of the purpose of this trip, and your opinions on it? Where exactly did you guys travel?

WN: Seven other faculty members and I attended the Boy's School Conference, which consisted of a group of 600 faculty members from boy's schools all across the world. We met and had continuing education discussions on various topics with many speakers including Willhelm Verwoerd, who spoke at MBA earlier this month. The trip was really life-changing in many ways. I think what I took the most from this trip was the appreciation for the transition that Nelson Mandela orchestrated and how his leadership has really influenced that nation in tremendous ways.

KEEPING HIS BALANCE: Dr. Tarkington enjoys the view after a long hike.



The theme of the conference was "lessons from Madiba," Mandela's tribal name. The whole conference was focused on the essence of who Mandela was and how his lessons relate to leadership and the issues we face in education.

BR: Who were the speakers and what did they discuss?

WN: One of the speakers was Desmond Tutu, the Archbishop of Cape Town and an icon in South Africa, on a similar level to Mandela. Hearing him talk about peace and really respecting other people was the essence of what we took from Mandela. How South Africans treat and respect one another is really important to them overcoming not only their divided history, but also the severe inequality economically between the black South Africans and the white Afrikans. Wrestling with a lot of those issues and hearing the speakers talking about how Mandela, in a Lincoln-esque way, navigated the racial tensions and brought things together was really tremendous. We also heard from the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, a unique opportunity of what reconciliation looks like from the judiciary level. We

also heard from Mandela's white bodyguard and his reflection of how Mandela's team was racially diverse and somewhat controversial. All of these stories and lessons really gave the sense that this man, because of an unworldly sense of forgiveness and reconciliation, was able to bring two very polarized groups together.

BR: How were the travel days? Where did you stay upon arrival?



A STUNNING LOOK: The view from the Bishop's School football field. **PHOTO:** Dr. Ed Tarkington

WN: Travel days were quite hectic. It takes about 24 hours to get there, with a set of 12 hour plane rides. Upon arrival we spent the first day getting adjusted to the time change. We stayed at the Table Bay hotel in Cape Town, which was right on the water—very beautiful. Most days were spent touring with and interacting with students at the Bishop's School. Another neat facet to the trip was getting a good sense of the economic issues in the area. I went with Dr. Tarkington to visit one of the six townships where within a one mile-by one mile area 60,000 people lived as a result of the apartheid regime. So getting a sense of the

economic challenges they have there was great, working with an organization that is designed to help that group of people in as many ways as possible, and also planning an MBA trip there in March of 2016 was a really fulfilling and also sobering experience. It made me excited to be able to engage in a level of poverty to that degree, make a difference, and also learn a lot about their culture."

BR: What other interesting things did you all do while there? What did you think?

WN: It truly is an amazing place to go. Table Mountain is one of the natural wonders of the world, so hiking to the top of this mountain that just towers over this beautiful city, being able to go to the southernmost point and then go on an African safari was incredible. It was truly the trip of a lifetime.



How to Ask a Girl to Homecoming

By: Josh Key and John Fioravanti
Staff Casanovas

It's that time of year again: Homecoming season. For some MBA students, this can be a magnificent time of year. You know who you're going to ask, and you have a perfect plan for the night. You're ready to rumble. For others this can be a stressful time filled with worry and anxiety. But don't worry! Gustave and Josh are here to help you. We've put together a quick and simple five-step process to help you find that certain special someone to take to the big dance.

1. Posting on Social Media

This is the first and most important step towards a successful homecoming. To do this you're going to need some form of social media to get the word out (Twitter, LinkedIn, Craigslist, etc.). Remember, when creating an account, make sure you look good in your profile picture and try to think of a few funny words to put into your bio. These aspects will increase your follower count. More followers equals more choices.



2. Finding the Date

Just like the journey to find your college of choice, there are hundreds of possibilities. And just like applying for college, some are too good for you. Don't be discouraged though, there's bound to be a perfect date somewhere. The question is: What kind of date do you want?

• The Friend

The most common date, the safest, and potentially the most fun, the "friend date" is a classic route to take. You already know each other. There will be no awkward dinner silence or absurdly embarrassing car rides with your parents (freshmen). The drawback, however, is

that homecoming romance is a no-go.

• The Girlfriend

This route enables you to laugh at all your single friends, because you won't have to find or ask a date. However, they can come right back and mock you because you're stuck with one woman. Not that that's a bad thing, right?

• The Prospect

This is the big one: asking your crush. Maybe you're already friends with her. Maybe you don't know her yet. Maybe she's just a girl you've been stalking on Instagram and sitting close to at football games. But that doesn't matter now. She's dateless. And it's your time to sweep her off her feet. You'll probably make a few mistakes, spill something on her or step on her feet while dancing, but maybe, just maybe, she'll like you back! Then again she might give you the death sentence: "You're a great friend." It's OK. We'll all be there for you.

3. Asking Your Date

Now that you've found the lucky lady, it's time to get creative. There are countless ways to do this, and you can't go wrong with most choices. It just depends on the girl.

For the athlete:



The food-lover:

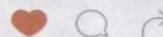
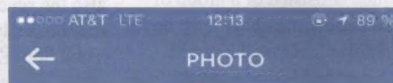


or even the country girl



4. The Ask

Now that you've come up with some clever way to ask, it's time to go for it. Round up one or two of your best friends, hop in your car, and head to her house. Head on up to her front door and ring that doorbell with confidence. Awkwardly converse with her mom/dad for a minute or two and explain why you're there. Now it's time. She comes to the front door. You get on one knee and say, "Will you make me the happiest man on campus?" She says yes, your friend takes a picture of you two, and you hightail it outta there. Mission complete.



HOT TOPIC: A Debate over Donald

Pro-Donald

By: Mark Floyd

Hillary Clinton's Biggest Fan

"Let's make America great again." Donald Trump may not be the most cultivated presidential hopeful for the Republican Party, but he is certainly the best. Trump comes from humble beginnings, and he exemplifies the ideal of the "American Dream." Trump's father was a poor, humble businessman worth mere millions. Trump took this minuscule amount of capital and made it into a multi-billion dollar business. Trump says, "Money was never a big motivation for me, except as a way to keep score. The real excitement is playing the game." Now, Donald wants to have some fun playing his game with the best country in the world, turning America into his giant game of Monopoly.

One lesson the Trumpster has learned is how to make a deal. Yes, he did write *The Art of the Deal* and he has plenty of experience in this area. Trump is an effective deal-maker. In business, he has made billions of dollars by working out deals with other companies and even other governments. These deals were perfectly honest and positive for both sides. Sure, Trump has had some minor setbacks like the terrible Trump Super Premium Vodka, but that's just part of the game. The failure of this business venture was likely due to the abominable use of "super" in front of the already superlative adjective "premium." I'm sure Mrs. Palmore would be quick to call Trump out on that one. In spite of some business failures, Trump has had many ingenious successes. One of his more innovative business endeavors was Trump University, which is essentially a series of seminars given by Trump. Donald sells the "gold seminar" to buyers who are willing to pay \$35,000 for a seminar in which Trump apparently gives his business secrets away. Unfortunately, MBA would not loan *The Bell Ringer* staff

the money to receive this innovative lecture, but I'm sure it is well worth the money.

Another area that Trump dominates is foreign policy. Even though Trump has made some outrageous comments about illegal immigrants flooding the country, he does make some valid points. Trump acknowledges the issue of having millions of undocumented workers in the country. All the tax money that could come from them would be an exceptional help to government funding. Trump also makes the point that they are all criminals. Whether this statement is truly valid or not is irrelevant. If Trump says it enough times, it will become true. Trump has an uncanny ability to make anything sound true. It is really an incredible work of magic, and it would be an essential trait in convincing Vladimir Putin to quit raiding other countries. Donald could just repeat the phrase, "If you raid Ukraine, you'll never compete in Olympic hockey again. And you can't ice skate either." Putin would immediately put his guns down upon hearing this statement.

It would feel great to have a winner in office, and Trump is a winner. He has taken millions of dollars and turned them into billions of dollars, which is not a minor accomplishment. Trump doesn't have time for political correctness, and that is what America needs. America has been falling from its leadership pedestal in the world. Israel has taken over as the "leader of the free world," the U.S. makes deals with terrorists, and water-boarding is "cruel and unusual." Essentially, America has become a hypersensitive group of hippies, similar to the population of California. Trump will make America a tougher nation, or at least he will make America seem like a tougher nation on the global scale.



Anti-Donald



By: Werner Bradshaw

Rand Paul's Biggest Fan

"One of the key problems today is that politics is such a disgrace. Good people don't go into government." According to Donald Trump, this why he is running for president.

However, Donald Trump is honestly not a very good person. However, he is still attracting a surprising number of supporters (and scaring everyone in the process). Here are a few reasons you shouldn't get caught up in the Trump hype.

1. Nobody actually likes Donald Trump.

While he can be funny, Trump is not really the type of person people like. He's not the type of guy you would want to talk to for more than a couple of minutes. Unfortunately, a large number of insecure Americans searching for an identity are feigning a love for Trump. These sad people think that, by supporting Trump, they're "sticking it to the man." But, deep down these people don't like Trump for who he is. Rather, they admire the confidence (or arrogance) with which Trump approaches everything he does (the same confidence these people lack).

2. Donald Trump is a racist.

Donald Trump is so socially out of touch with the rest of America that it's actually comical. Go ahead, insecure Trump-lover, tell

me I'm too sensitive. There is no denying Donald Trump is a racist. Don't believe me? Listen to him speak on any social issue ever. You can't just "build a wall" to keep "the Mexican rapists" out of the country. That's literally not possible. It's a joke.

3. Donald Trump can say a lot of very ridiculous things while campaigning, but if he were to be in office, he would simply fail.

"The only kind of people I want counting my money are little short guys that wear yamakas everyday."

"I have a great relationship with the blacks. I've always had a great relationship with the blacks."

(Talking about John McCain)

"He's a war hero because he was captured. I like people who weren't captured, ok?"

"I love beautiful women, and beautiful women love me. It has to be both ways."

"It's certainly not groundbreaking news that the early victories by the women on 'The Apprentice' were, to a very large extent, dependent on their sex appeal."

With all that being said, I do think Trump is a better candidate than many of his Republican competitors. Despite the way he acts, he is a smart businessman who knows a lot about the way our economy works. However, it is impossible for me to believe that Trump is ready to be the most powerful man in the world.

Wrapping Up the Mayoral Race: Nashville Shows its True Colors

By: Andrew Kaplan
News Editor

September 10, 2015 was a day of both triumph and disappointment for the final two mayoral contenders. The mayoral race, predicted by every analyst to be razor-close, ended in a definitive, twelve-percentage-point victory for Megan Barry. Receiving 61% of the vote, Barry became the first woman in city history to be elected as Nashville's mayor. As historic as this feat is in itself, the 2015 Nashville mayoral race stood out for many other reasons as well.

David Fox, Barry's opponent in the runoff election, suffered a major loss. Although still receiving tens of thousands of votes, Fox had poured massive amounts of his own money, as well as his brother's money, into his campaign.

A former hedge fund manager, Fox made a significant amount of money in his early years working in New York. His brother made campaign contributions from his Super PAC in Texas. Coupled with generous donations from a loyal conservative voting constituency, Fox was well financed for the campaign. Fox appeared in numerous television advertisements around the clock. Yet despite his intense campaigning and funding, Fox fell short. In his concession speech, Fox remarked, "We have run a very serious hard-fought campaign — both sides."

"Hard fought" may hardly be the word for it. As the runoff election date grew near, the race became increasingly heated—turning many on-the-fence voters against Fox.

While Fox maintained a solid footing in the Belle Meade/West Meade area of Nashville, Megan Barry dominated the surrounding regions of the city.

Neighborhoods comprised of minorities nearly all sided with Barry. As many predicted, Barry carried the liberal vote, and Fox carried the conservative vote. But on Election Day, Nashville's liberal majority showed up to the polls and reified the notion that this race was certainly one that drew along party lines. While some liked to think that the race was more focused on issue-specific contentions, the voting results reflected the reality that Fox got votes from conservative areas and Barry received more votes from Democratic areas.

Nashville has become somewhat more liberal

than conservative. As reflected during each presidential election cycle, Nashville is the "blue spot" in the sea of red that is Tennessee. And as the mayoral race got increasingly nasty, partisan divides became less fuzzy. Fox attacked Barry for not being a "good Christian" while he promoted a fiscally conservative agenda. Barry focused her campaign on social responsibility, affordable housing, and solving the city's transit problem. As the race turned nasty, it only polarized the voters more, and likely led many centrist voters to vote for Barry.

This election brings a new era of leadership to Nashville in a time of great prosperity for many in the city. Enjoying a nice cycle of growth begun by Karl Dean, many citizens of Nashville look to Megan Barry to provide a brand of leadership similar to Dean, "keeping the good going." Following the election victory, Barry received Dean's public approval. "This is a great city and a great job," said Dean, "and Megan is more than capable of leading Nashville to its next plateau."

MEET THE NEW BOSS: Megan Barry is sworn in as the Mayor of Nashville on Friday September 25th, 2015. **PHOTO:** The Nashville Scene



GLUCK

ORTHODONTICS

A Legendary and One-of-a-Kind Experience



Gluck Orthodontics
welcomes the Gluck boys
back to Nashville!

Daniel Gluck ('03) - Senior Vice
President, York Capital Management

Jonathan Gluck ('04) - DDS MSD,
Specialist in Orthodontics

2002 Richard Jones Road ste. A-200
615-269-5903
www.drgluck.com



EDITOR-IN-CHIEF
Nolan Spear

ASSOCIATE EDITORS
Joseph Scowden
Andrew Kaplan
Peter Taylor

NEWS EDITOR
Andrew Kaplan

FEATURES EDITOR
Joseph Scowden

ASSISTANT FEATURES EDITOR
John Fioravanti

SPORTS EDITOR
Ben Coulthard

ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR
Peter Taylor

ASST. ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR
Jack Capizzi

OPINIONS EDITOR
Carter Lovvorn

BUSINESS MANAGERS
Carter Lovvorn
Jack Capizzi

WEBMASTER/MEDIA DIRECTOR
Mark Floyd

FACULTY ADVISORS
Mr. Matt Hutton
Dr. Laurel Young

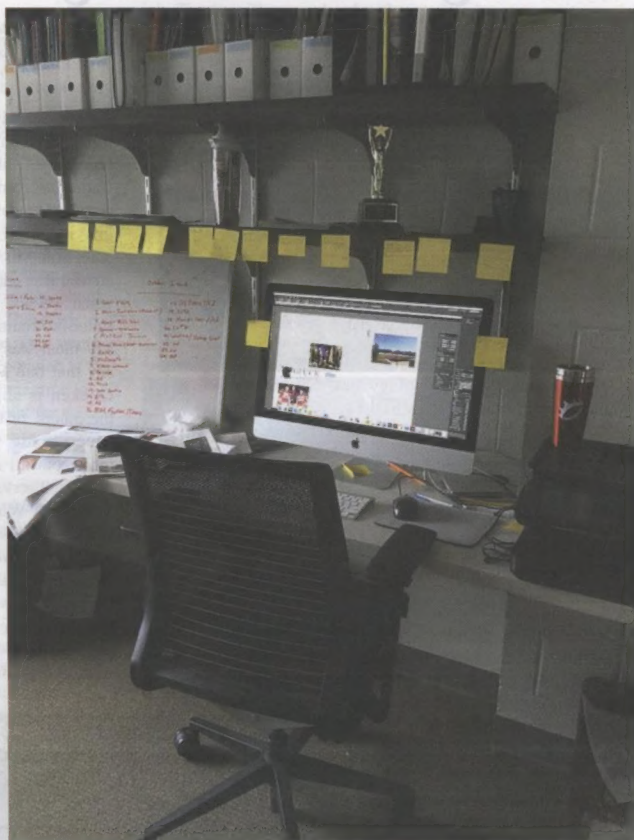
MEMBER, TENNESSEE HIGH SCHOOL PRESS ASSOCIATION

The Bell Ringer is a non-profit newspaper operated and published by and for the students of Montgomery Bell Academy, who are its intended audience. Views expressed in *The Bell Ringer* do not necessarily represent those held by the staff or school.

Letters to the Editor are encouraged, and can be delivered to the *Bell Ringer* office in the Lowry Building, the Faculty Advisors or the Editors, or sent to bellringer@montgomerybell.edu (simply type 'Bell Ringer' into the school email). These letters must be signed; *The Bell Ringer* neither publishes anonymous submissions of opinions or articles nor permits individuals to remain unidentified unless protected by other rules of confidentiality at MBA. Letters will be edited for length and clarity.

The staff of *The Bell Ringer* prepares all copy at Montgomery Bell Academy. Tennessee/Gannett in Nashville, Tennessee, prints the paper.

Thoughts from the Editor



Let me explain something to you. I'm the Dude. So that's what you call me. You know, that or, uh, His Dudeness, or uh, Duder, or El Duderino if you're not into the whole brevity thing.

Visit us online at

www.thebellringer.org

for video and audio content in addition to frequently updated stories from your *Bell Ringer* staff.

You can also follow us on:

Twitter: @mbabellringer

Instagram: @mbabellringer

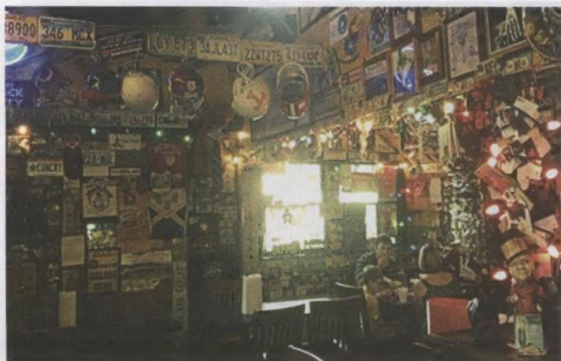


Do you like to write, take photos or work on graphic design?

JOIN OUR TEAM!

Contact Nolan Spear, Joseph Scowden, Peter Taylor or Andrew Kaplan if you are interested.

McDougal's vs. McDougal's: Who Will Win?



A Trip to Vandy
By: William Bradford
Staff Writer

I entered the Vandy McDougal's with just one question in mind: which location is better, White Bridge or Vandy? Although I lacked the companionship of the enthusiastic Gibson, I was determined to have the best experience possible at the fine joint. The staff is very down to earth, and I felt right at home upon walking in. I ordered the new sampler plate, which includes wings, strips, and Tennessee Toast. I sat down outside amidst the Vandy students who make up the restaurant's main clientele. Since college students are always looking for their parents to pay for their meals, the place was packed and had a laid-back vibe. Although the food is much the same, I have to agree with Mr. Lovvorn on the fact that it all comes down to atmosphere. The White Bridge McDougal's feels more like a bar, whereas the Vandy McDougal's is a neighborhood hangout. One aspect

of my meal that I really focused on was the sauce. Here's my verdict: the Tearjerker sauce was spicy, but has nothing on Hattie B's "Shut the Cluck Up!". The Ole' Smoky sauce was too sweet for a BBQ sauce, but the McDougal's sauce was definitely the best flavor. It was a creamy blend of mustards and spices. The wings actually had meat on them, contrary to other restaurants, but were nothing special. I could go on to describe every other minute detail, but in the end it all comes down to the same local chicken joint. So, you decide. Which do you prefer: a sports bar, or a neighborhood hangout?



A Trip to White Bridge
By: Carter Lovvorn
Opinions Editor

A few Sundays back, a group of hungry freshmen, including the legendary Gibby Gibson '20, and I, Carter Lovvorn, ventured down to the new McDougal's on White Bridge to give it a whirl. The trip was an easy jaunt from MBA, and we knew we had arrived at an outstanding establishment when we saw an enormous chicken statue protruding from the front porch. My meal was very solid. You may say that one McDougal's location's chicken is slightly crunchier than the others, or that one's "tearjerker" sauce made you cry a little bit more, but all in all the meals each restaurant serves are nearly identical. This new White Bridge location had all the details nailed down, with perfectly brewed sweet tea and that same delicious (AND FREE!!) ice cream. However, between the two, the differences came down to the atmosphere and the people. When we walked in, it felt like we were in a

sports grille. We walked right up to a bar to order, and it was stocked with beer on tap (not that it matters to us high school students) and TVs. Speaking of TVs, given that it was a Sunday, Gibby and I had decided that we would throw a fit if there weren't any televisions. We were very excited, however, to see a smiling Ken Whisenhunt up on the screen when we walked in. Also, if you are someone that gets uncomfortable when the owner of a restaurant comes to your table to talk, this isn't your restaurant. The owners were extremely friendly and walked around the restaurant conversing with the customers. The final benefit for MBA students is the location and parking. You will no longer have to deal with parking tickets from that lot across the street at the Vandy McDougal's. Also, it takes 5-10 minutes to get to the White Bridge McDougals from MBA, and it is a much more realistic off-campus lunch option. Overall I believe that the new McDougals is superior to the Vandy location.



THE BELL RINGER

Website:

www.thebellringer.org

Twitter: @mbabellringer

Instagram: @mbabellringer

THE LOCAL TACO SUPPORTS MBA
stop by before or after football games
GO BIG RED!



Fresh. Casual. Local.

CATERING

SPECIAL EVENTS

THELOCALTACO.COM

4501 murphy road, nashville • 146 pewitt drive, brentwood
615.891.3271 | 615.915.4666

>> *continued from front page*

all of these great kids is especially important. An AD is tasked with finding many opportunities for many special people, and not just limiting the school to kids participating in just a few sports. Diversity is the key to my job. My main goal is to make sure that the facilities and the coaching are in place, so that the students thrive in the athletic world. So there is a lot of scheduling, a lot of logistics involved, just to try and keep the busy work out of the coach's hands, so, like I said, they can coach. And frankly, another big aspect of the job is trying to be a conduit between the coaches, parents, and students, so we can make sure they are thriving.

BR: So you are retiring from your tenure at MBA. Where are you off to next?

ON: I have taken a great job at a non-profit organization, the Community Foundation of Middle Tennessee, which is a compilation of funding and marketing to help find donors in Tennessee to realize their philanthropic goals. I will be on the fundraising/ marketing side, as well as trying to make the money donated be utilized in the community. Their foundation's location is in Green Hills, so I plan on being at many MBA games, and to still be on campus. The best part of moving on to something new and

exciting, after all the fun things I have done here, is that I am still an alum, so I'll always be a part of and actively engaged in this community.

BR: Going into the school year, did you know that you were going to take this job, or was it a sudden switch?

ON: Well, a little bit of both. I am joining the Community Foundation at a perfect time, but it is not an easy time in the school year for me to leave. Therefore, it wasn't a planned time. That being said, taking this new position at the start of October gave me time to start everything out right for this year, thus making the transition easier. I believe that the hand off to Mr. Tipps will be as smooth as it can be, and I know that he will do a great job. The process did happen over a period of time, but the final step occurred very quickly when the job presented itself.

BR: Mr. Tipps is your current successor, but is he just the interim AD? And if so, are there any rumors on who might be hired to permanently fit the role?

ON: Yes, Mr. Tipps is the interim AD, and he and I have communicated quite a bit over the past week or so in regards to his new position, and he knows that he can call me whenever he needs

any help at all. We have a great staff, great coaches, and I am very confident that he will do a fantastic job. Things will move ahead without a hiccup. In terms of the permanent AD, I do not know who will be hired. That is a decision that Mr. Gioia will make, and I am sure he will find the perfect person for the job. I know that Mr. Tipps will do a great job for the rest of the year, and our entire staff will step up to assist him.

As a humble man behind the scenes, Coach O'Neal has positively impacted not only MBA athletics, but the community as a whole. He insists that "I have never worked with such noble men than at MBA, and I will always remember that. This, along with the fantastic staff that works here, is what he will miss most. Thank you for a great 15 years, and to many more to come." His final phrase in the interview, a phrase that truly sums up his remarkable career here on the Hill, "Roll Red."

A PHOTOGENIC BUNCH: One of Coach O'Neal's favorite traditions was his post-game "advisory selfies," just another indicator of his deep involvement with and love for the students he worked with. **PHOTO:** Scott O'Neal



Welcome to the Kingdom!

SMOOTHIE KING.

Montgomery Bell Academy,
Here's your Smoothie King welcome coupon! Print & present this coupon at the Belle Meade Smoothie King at 4546 Harding Pike and receive:

**A FREE
20 oz SMOOTHIE!***
with purchase of 20 oz. or larger smoothie

Hurry In. This coupon expires **11/1/2015**
Thanks again for joining!
Be Good to Yourself.

SMOOTHIE KING.
Established 1973
www.smoothieking.com



7408555500

*Please present photo ID with coupon. Not valid with any other offer. No cash value. Cannot be combined with any other offer. Any alterations to this certificate will make it non-redeemable. This certificate may only be used once. Excludes Power Meals, Matis, Shakes and Kids' Kups. Valid only at participating locations. Some restrictions may apply. Offer expires 14 days from date sent. Free smoothie must be of equal or lesser value.

Let's Talk Bernie

By: Patrick Dennis
Staff Writer

Bernie Sanders may be one of the most eccentric presidential candidates in modern history. His unkempt hair, his deep Brooklyn accent, and his self-proclaimed identity as a "democratic socialist" all make him an unconventional candidate in the eyes of the general American public. Sanders's quest for the democratic nomination has many obstacles. Many believe that Hillary Clinton is simply going to bulldoze her way through the primary. Unfortunately for Hillary fans, this assumption may not be the case.

As a socialist, Bernie pushes

on top and try to convince Americans that global warming is not real.

None of these ideas seems crazy to me. Even though Bernie is currently far behind Hillary in the polls, things are looking up for him. Hillary's 54% lead over Bernie in April has fallen to 17% at the moment, while Bernie's numbers continue to surge.

How can Hillary's falling numbers be explained? Well, from her suspicious personal email server, to her ambiguity in explaining the embassy attacks in Benghazi, to her hitting the whip on live television, she has developed quite a poor reputation in the eyes of some voters. A recent study shows that 55% of registered voters do

Bernie



AN EXTENSIVE CAMPAIGN OPERATION: The above and below pictures are just a few examples of the marketing behind Bernie's presidential campaign. PHOTOS: BernieSandersForPresident



an economic system that is often confused with communism. Socialism has developed a strong, negative connotation in America, leading many to assume that Bernie is some sort of Marxist nut. It is not until people actually consider his stance on issues such as healthcare, education, and wealth distribution that he begins to receive legitimacy as a candidate.

In discussing his views, Bernie points to countries such as Denmark that have already implemented socialist economic systems, noting how their systems could be successful if implemented in America. Denmark has achieved strong growth as well as a stout social welfare program. He notes that the top 0.1% of Americans has more wealth than the entire bottom 90%, and that the middle class is only getting smaller. He has proposed legislation such as placing a greater tax on stock speculation, a tax that would produce enough government income to make tuition for all public universities free. Another of Bernie's major policy propositions is to limit campaign funding so that the class of billionaires in America cannot continue to put millions of dollars towards candidates who will, in turn, keep the super wealthy

not believe that Hillary Clinton can be trusted. Hillary's numbers will only continue to fall unless she is able to rectify her perception as a candidate and get past her scandalous period as Secretary of State.

While Hillary has been "just chilling in Cedar Rapids," Bernie has been turning out larger and larger crowds, upwards of 100,000 attendees, to his rallies all across the country. These numbers are indicative of his growing popularity as a candidate and the movement that he has successfully inspired.

If Hillary's numbers continue to fall and Bernie continues to gain more and more support, we just might have a race. You never know what could happen in 2016.



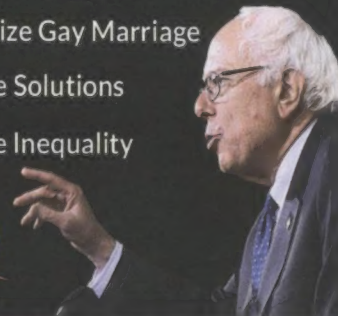
NOT SHY ABOUT HIS OPINIONS: This list is just a few of the ideals that Bernie Sanders stands for. Bernie has been successful in the early running by pitting his ideas against those of the Republicans currently debating. PHOTO: StudentsForBernie

WHERE DOES BERNIE SANDERS STAND?

- ✓ End the War on Drugs
- ✓ Affordable/Free College Education
- ✓ Federally Legalize Gay Marriage
- ✓ Climate Change Solutions
- ✓ Take on Income Inequality

Bernie

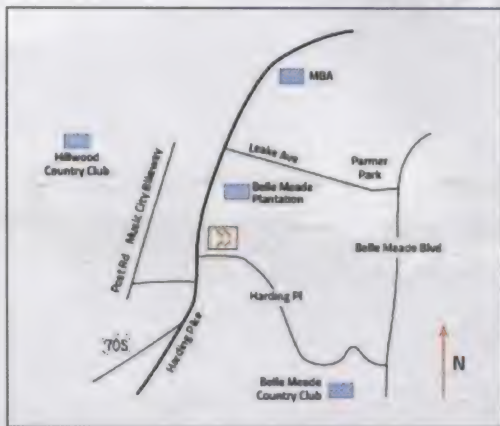
www.berniesanders.com



STRENGTHENING MULTIPLE GENERATIONS OF GENTLEMEN, SCHOLARS AND ATHLETES

Join your fellow MBA students and their families
finding fitness and community at Iron Tribe.

Next Intro Classes Start September 14.
Ask about Special Incentives when mentioning *The Bell Ringer*.



Iron Tribe Belle Meade
5205 Harding Pike
615-979-3959

Located 2.5 miles south of
MBA on Hwy. 70 — on the left.



BelleMeade.IronTribeFitness.com

Dr. Boyd Leads Club Involvement on Campus

By: John Fioravanti
Assistant Entertainment Editor

As the school year begins to unfold, a multitude of up-and-coming clubs arise to provide new opportunities for students. However, the MBA club scene would not be anywhere without the continuation of popular clubs from last year. Such as, the legend-, wait for it, -dary organization known as "FC Hype."

In an interview with *The Bell Ringer*, esteemed history teacher and Dean of Students, Dr. Boyd, stated, "FC Hype is providing a great way for MBA students to play regular pick-up soccer, as well as spread awareness of the Premier League, which as you may know is made up of 19 great teams and Swansea City." Whether you're a (now angry) Swansea City fan or FIFA enthusiast, FC Hype is a great way to flex your athletic skills instead of your thumbs, or have fierce debates over British soccer with Dr. Boyd. Besides "various scrimmages and the creation of opportunities for Devon Rundberg and Benton Dodd to use the word 'banter' in as many contexts as possible," Dr. Boyd hopes to see organized faculty vs. student matches or competitions similar to and perhaps better than the Language World Cup. Hopefully, both competitions will push each other to greater heights. This wish for better coordination and infrastructure of the club also creates leadership opportunities, something Mr. Norton and Colonel Sharbel value highly.

As for other British sports, Dr. Boyd is continuing the cricket club and stretching it to new heights, hopefully incorporating other schools around Nashville if any teams are made; however, the competition would pale in comparison to

MBA's most stellar club. A meeting of the cricket club consists of "short training drills followed by matches." In addition, there is already a state championship for the club, with a trophy imported from England in 2012 standing as the club's crowning achievement.

Dr. Boyd will also be continuing the Junior State of America (JSA) club, which focuses on discussion of current events: "For the JSA, the model so far has been for a current affairs topic to be chosen by the leaders of the group and then a generally free-flowing discussion that seeks to let everyone express their opinion in an informed and constructive way." This club sounds perfect for any and all who are interested in politics and world news. It's also right down the alley for debaters who will probably embarrass non-debaters if an argument arises.

New to the scene is the MBA Ping Pong Club, organized by Mike Miccioli. The club has been busy recently completing its first tournament hosted in the basement of the new Dining Hall. "Sleeper pick" Chris Hawkins was able to snatch the victory. The club looks to compete with other schools and teams around Nashville should the chance arise, but for now, meetings consist of intramural matches between both high schoolers and microbes.

Overall it's an exciting year for extracurricular fun at MBA. Whether you join ping pong, JSA, cricket, FC Hype, or any other activity at MBA, clubs are great settings for developing skills, learning about other cultures, educating yourself, or just having fun. "The more people get involved in these activities the better," says Dr. Boyd. "I think they all provide an outlet for people who enjoy the particular opportunities they present. Above all, these clubs should be



fun for those who already know what they like, but also for those who have never tried something like it, but are just curious."



FC HYPE SOCCER CLUB



It's A Good Day to Run

By: Peter Taylor
Entertainment Editor

Despite some recent setbacks among its top runners, the diverse and experienced 2015 MBA Cross Country team looks to be a promising and talented unit with great success in store.

The team is known for its rigorous and systemic training schedule during the summer months. Most runners began their training as early as the first week of June and have continued up through August, the team meeting together each Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday to push each other on and enjoy some quality team camaraderie. Most older runners are running up to forty-five miles a week by the end of the summer.

Varsity Runner Tom Peters says of the summer training, "Talent really seemed to reveal itself and flourished among the guys, both young and old, during these summer months. We are excited to see who will step up and how they'll perform as we enter into the heart of the season."

The team has some big shoes to fill, particularly those of the celebrated 2010 team, who swept the State Championship with the seven top spots all going to MBA runners. Despite last year's sixth-place disappointment, the 2014 team set a high bar in terms of leadership and camaraderie.

This year's team is led by seniors Hunter Hamilton and Robert Dedman, along with junior Will Peters. Following

the example of legendary duo Richard Thornton and Cole Jones, these team captains preach hard work and team solidarity to concentrate everyone's individual talents into a strong team with an eye at winning the state championship this November.

The team really began to gel at the annual Cross Country Camp, this year held at Camp Alpine for four days. Hunter Hamilton says of the team's growing strength, "The team looks pretty strong so far. Camp went really well, and we have several returning varsity runners in addition to a lot of young talent. We have some pretty tough competition in teams like Brentwood Academy this year, but I'm excited to show them what we've got."

In the past few weeks, the fresh-faced team got the season's first taste of adversity when, seemingly one by one, its top runners were knocked down by injury. Top runner Will Peters, suffering from a stress fracture, will be taking some time off to heal, while his executive allies Hunter Hamilton and Tom Peters shift in and out due to minor injuries, continuing their training with a mix of running, swimming, and biking.

In light of these unfortunate events, some of the lower varsity guys are seeing an opportunity to show everyone what they're made of. Cole Thornton, Alden Ferguson, Graham Ragsdale, and Isaac Wills are four up-and-coming fresh talents ready to take on the world.

Despite the typical sort of setbacks characteristic of life on the Hill,

the grind only gets tougher as the team trains even harder to make up for their losses. Will Peters still asserts, "We are out here to work hard, do our best, and 'rawdog' [sic] our way through life."

Expect great things from these boys. As Head Coach Russ says, "It's a good day to run."



A LASTING LEGACY: Each member of the MBA Cross Country team feeds off the results of the runners that came before him. Studs like Daniel Peters ('11) provide motivation for today's runners to push even further. **PHOTO:** TNMileSplit.

A STRONG TEAM LEADER: Robert Dedman ('16), pictured below, is one of the many seniors who has stepped up to the plate to lead the Cross Country team this year. **PHOTO:** MontgomeryAdvertiser.com



English Premier League Prepares to Excite

By: Collin Ragsdale
Staff Writer

It's that time of year again. Time for the early morning risers to get out of bed, throw on the jersey of their team's number 10 and wake up everyone in the house with screams of ¡Golazooo! after Olivier Giroud actually scores a non-poacher's goal.

Although the Barclay's Premier League officially kicked off on Saturday, August 8th, teams were busy all summer during the transfer window in attempts to bolster their squads. Crystal Palace made their mark by signing Yohan Cabaye, from Paris St-Germain, and

Bakary Sako from the Wolverhampton Wanderers. Liverpool signed Christian Benteke, who has already proven his worth with a stunning volley in his debut against Swindon, and more recently, a magnificent bicycle kick against Manchester United that left even the Manchester United fans drooling.

Others had more mediocre summers. Arsenal managed to reach a new low after not signing a single outfield player... well done, Arsene Wenger.

Fans can expect exciting performances from internationally-experienced signings such as Kevin De Bruyne (Manchester City), Nicolás Hernán Gonzalo Otamendi and Raheem

Sterling (Manchester City). City has proven once again that all a team needs to succeed in The League is the backing of a rich Middle Eastern oil company.

In other news, José Mourinho still has no friends from any other club after tossing his runner-up medal into the crowd following his team's defeat at The Community Shield in early August. José has bigger issues to worry about, as dissent within his own club is rising after a dreadful start to the season. Chelsea has won only two of its first six games, tying one and losing the other three. Liverpool joins Chelsea in the bottom half of the table with unimpressive performances against Manchester

United and West Ham, causing concern over the lack of depth in the defensive third. At the other end of the spectrum, Manchester City and Manchester United have started the season sitting pretty in first and second place, respectively.

It is far too early in the season to make any assumptions on final standings in May, but there are a few underdogs that have started the season wonderfully. Leicester City, although not fully tested, currently hold fourth. West Ham has shown glimpses of greatness with huge wins over Arsenal, Liverpool and Manchester City—three top-five clubs. No need to worry for the fans of the big name clubs, though, as



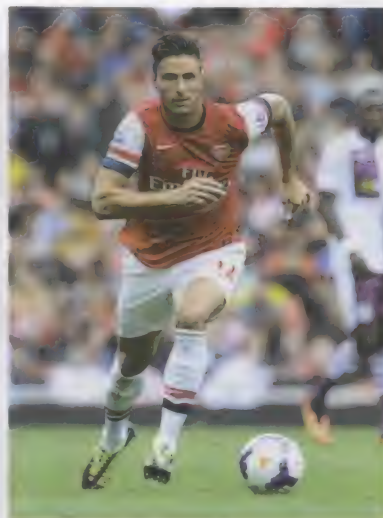
THE FRENCH SENSATION: Olivier Giroud hopes to help Arsenal rise to new heights in the EPL this year. PHOTO: SportingLife

A NATIONAL HERO: Wayne Rooney has dominated at Manchester United for years, but a fresh-faced crop of EPL talent will pose new tests for his squad. PHOTO: DailyMailUK



no team outside of the Big Five (if you're being generous and want to give the fifth spot to Tottenham on a good day) has broken into the coveted UEFA Champion's League spots since Everton in 2004.

For those of you reading this article that aren't avid soccer fans: I know waiting ninety minutes for something to happen can be boring, but the rush of adrenaline when that moment of greatness does happen is more than worth the wait. The 2015-2016 Barclay's Premier League season promises to deliver historic upsets and fantastic goals, so stay tuned in. The fun has just begun.





THINK BIG

MOE'S SOUTHWEST GRILL

4326 Harding Rd. Suite 101

Nashville, TN 37205

615-383-7871



SCOTT PORTIS, CLASS OF '84
MCCLAIN PORTIS, CLASS OF '18

Big Red Start the Season 6-0

By: Carter Lovvorn
Opinions Editor

DII AA is a jumbled mess this time of year. While BA and MBA stand at 5-1 and 6-0, respectively, teams like Baylor, Ensworth, and McCallie are still talented squads capable of surprising anyone. While there are certainly other schools that are contenders, at this point in the season, the Big Red and the Eagles appear to be the strongest teams in the Mid-State. The second tier is composed of Baylor and McCallie. The third tier holds Father Ryan and JPIL—two schools that have proven over and over that they cannot hang with the more competitive schools.

Let's start with MBA and BA. On the surface, the teams appear to be similarly composed. But if we dive in, the teams possess their own unique strengths. Both teams put up a lot of points and can brag about their star-studded lines on either side of the ball. Their respective plans of attack on offense are what really set them apart. BA lives in the air, and Jeremiah Oatsvall is a baller who can and will shred defenses. Oatsvall ran for over 100 yards and passed for over 200 with five total touchdowns against Baylor in week five. His offensive line, with its three SEC commits, gives him great protection and time to make the right reads.

MBA, on the other hand, pounds the ball down the throat of the opposition. Ty Chandler just refuses to go down at first contact and has to be gang tackled on nearly every play. Ty forces defenses to stack the box, giving Glenn Coleman openings to

roll out and hit his receivers. I give MBA the slight edge on defense, as incredible leadership from David Gaw, Sam Sullivan, and D'on Coofer has really made a difference this year. The MBA vs. BA game may be the most anticipated matchup of the season in the division.

On the other hand, we can't forget the teams down in Chattanooga. MBA defeated McCallie in overtime in Week 5, but the Blue Tornadoes are still a talented squad the Big Red may very well face again. They possess one of the best receiving corps in the state. Baylor snuck by Ensworth in Week 3, led by stud linebacker Ryan Parker, who puts up ridiculous numbers of tackles on a weekly basis. Labeling these schools as "second tier" schools in no way takes them out of contention. They have the ability to play with and beat any team in the state.

In the third tier, it's really just Father Ryan and JPIL. These schools simply aren't as strong as the top competitors. JPIL got smacked by a Melrose team that MBA beat by more than 40, and Ryan lost to MBA—conquered McCallie by more than 30.

Now to Ensworth: what's up with them? Where do they stand in all of this? I think they fit in between the first and second tiers. I don't believe they are as good as McCallie and Baylor, but after a convincing win over CPA, I do believe they can play with any team in the Mid-State. So does that mean Ensworth could beat the mighty Big Red? Yes. Sorry, guys, but they could, for a few reasons. Reason number one is Darius Morehead. He is an incredibly talented running back, and as we know from last



ICE COLD: Micah Battle ('17) and Ty Chandler ('17) continue to play well for the Big Red. The team has achieved wins over division rivals McCallie and Father Ryan, but tough tests against BA, Baylor, and Ensworth lie ahead.

year's regular season matchup, he can break one at any time. Secondly, Ricky Bowers is an excellent coach, say what you might about him. He knows how to properly prepare his team for each big game, and it is safe to say that his team will have grown a lot by the time we face them at the end of the year. Third, you just never know with rivalry

games: anything can happen. No, I am not predicting that Ensworth will beat MBA. In fact, I think MBA will win that game fairly handily. But it's in no way a guarantee.

It should be a very interesting second half of the season, and hopefully the Big Red can keep our winning streak alive, and bring an intense amount of hype into the playoffs.

Mariota, Titans Say Aloha!

By: Austin Streaty
Staff Writer

After finishing last year tied with the Tampa Bay Buccaneers for the worst record in the league, the Titans are looking to leave the past behind them. The Jake Locker era in Tennessee is over. He could never stay healthy, and he decided to hang up the cleats due to

a lack of passion for the game.

The reward for the franchise's worst 2-14 record was the second pick of the draft, Marcus Mariota. Being the second overall pick—as well as the reigning Heisman Trophy winner—comes with high hopes.

Other draft picks show promise as well. Although many Titans fans were rooting for the team to draft

Johnny Manziel in the 2014 draft, the much-scrutinized pick Taylor Lewan has proven to be the right choice. The 6'8" 315 lb. Lewan is slowly emerging into an All-Pro left tackle, and has been named a team captain for this upcoming season.

Other key additions to the Titans will be Brian Orakpo, Perrish Cox, Da'Norris Searcy. Brian Orakpo is a 3-time Pro Bowler who will bring a much-needed leadership presence to a team that is sorely lacking one. Orakpo will be a physically menacing beast as a pass rusher if he can stay healthy (he has had three pectoral injuries in the past three years). Da'Norris Searcy and Perrish Cox, who coincidentally opened the 2015 season with a pick-six, are potential starters for a secondary that was terrible last season. With the Michael Griffin era hopefully coming to a close (say your prayers) and Blidi Wreh-Wilson being one of the worst starting cornerbacks in the league, Cox and Searcy will definitely be a significant upgrade to the defensive

backfield.

But the pressure is on for Mariota. Titans fans are hoping for Mariota to step into the spotlight and become the quarterback of the future for a team that hasn't had a true quarterback in the last 10 years. All Mariota has done in his career is win, and that will hopefully continue onto his career with the Titans.

Altogether the Titans' upcoming season is looking up. It can't get any worse than 2-14 right?

We'll see.



TOWN SAVIOR? Though the Titans have started the season with a record of 1-2, fans in town are optimistic after rookie quarterback Marcus Mariota's strong outings in Weeks 1 and 3. **PHOTO:** iSportsWeb.



MBA Alum Reports from US Open

By: Mike Miccioli
Staff Writer

The 2015 US Open was one for the ages. It included tight matches, numerous upsets, and the crowning of a first-time grand slam champion in the women's singles category, Flavia Pennetta.

Heavy favorite and reigning champion Serena Williams lost in the semifinals to the unseeded Italian Roberta Vinci, thus ruining Serena's bid for the Calendar Grand Slam. A flustered Serena was visibly frustrated, screaming and roaring after nearly every point by the end (as is her custom when losing a close match). In an all-Italian final, Pennetta defeated Vinci, 7-6 (4), 6-2. Pennetta decided to go out on top and surprised everyone by retiring in her post-match interview.

In the men's singles, world number one Novak Djokovic defeated the number two seed five-time US Open champion Roger Federer in the finals, 6-4, 5-7, 6-4, 6-4. Although Federer had been playing some of his best tennis leading up to the finals, not dropping a single set, his level of play unfortunately fizzled in the finals against Djokovic. Federer's first serve percentage was far too low in the first set, and he managed only 4 for 23 in the match on break points.

In the men's doubles competition, 16-time Grand Slam champions and number one-seeded Americans Bob and Mike Bryan suffered an upset in the first round to fellow Americans Steve Johnson and Sam Querrey. Frenchmen Pierre-Hugues

Herbert and Nicolas Mahut snagged the eventual men's doubles championship.

Favored one-seeds Martina Hingis and Sania Mirza won the women's doubles championship.

MBA alumnus and former microbe tennis player Kang Huh attended the US Open. *The Bell Ringer* sat down to ask him a few questions:

BR: What were the best matches you

entertainment as well.

Another great match I watched was between John Isner (USA) and Malek Jaziri (Algeria). Isner is this behemoth of a man, standing at 6-foot 10-inches. Since he's so tall, his serve is absolutely incredible. He would ace Jaziri every other point. Jaziri is actually a good match for Isner when he returns the ball, and there were definitely some great rallies between them.

Of course it was also fun to

in person reminds you that the ball is moving upwards of 80 miles per hour, and that the game is incredibly tough to keep up with as a player.

I think it's also worth noting that it's actually less interesting to see Roger Federer beat on an unranked player in the early matches. It's what you'd expect from the greatest player of all time. Even so, seeing players you may not recognize is one of the joys of watching tennis, since the matches tend to be incredible.



BR: You are a legendary foodie here at MBA. What were the best food items at the Open?

KH: I didn't eat any of the food there. It was just so expensive. A bottle of "cold" water sold for \$5.50. They had water fountains, but staffers told us the water wasn't chilled so as to "motivate" people to buy water bottles. From what I saw, though, there was an incredible variety of food offered. I saw everything from classic American ballpark fare to Indian food to sushi. The US Open really knows how to attract a diverse crowd.

BR: Is there anything else you think the readers would want to know about?

KH: I think the US Open, or any professional tennis event, is something everyone should go to at least once. You may not see the big-name players, but you will definitely enjoy the matches. You don't have to be a tennis fan to enjoy the action, and it's very much worth the trip!

watched?

KH: The best match I watched by far was between Lleyton Hewitt (Australia) and Aleksandr Nedovyesov (Kazakhstan). While both of them are unranked, they were both incredibly talented players whose skills were almost equal. It was incredible to see not only a high level of tennis playing, but also to see a fierce degree of competition between the two of them. The patriotic chants from the Australian fans certainly added to the

watch Federer beat up on an unranked player in the earlier stage of the tournament.

BR: What are the coolest things about being there in person?

KH: Being at the US Open definitely puts professional tennis into perspective. When you watch tennis on TV, it's easy to forget how fast the ball is moving, so you don't appreciate the moments when players can keep up with each other. Watching tennis

Birthdays **REUNIONS** **CORPORATE**

Celebrations **ANYTIME** **CHRISTMAS LIGHTS**

school rewards **FRIENDS AGAINST DRUNK DRIVERS** **weddings**

kids **PROMS** **kids**

parties **www.NASHUILLEPARTYBUS.COM** **615-754-2221**

Bachelor/Bachelorette **ANYTIME**

FADD's PARTY BUSES



The Shawshank

Redemption: If it comes on TV, you just have to watch it. It possesses the audience by engaging them fully into the story. The idea of a man sentenced to a life-long prison sentence for something he may or may not have done grabs the viewer by the shirt and unfolds in a way that both reveals and questions the initial ideals portrayed on the screen. *The Shawshank Redemption* has become one of the most renowned movies of all time due to the solidity and intensity of its plotline.

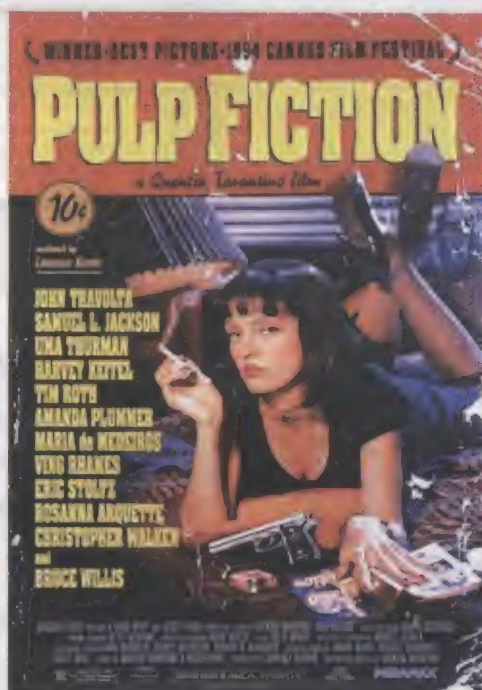


The Big Lebowski: The multiple levels of comedy in *TBL* are what make it truly special. It is a parody of classic detective and crime stories in that the absolute worst person for the job is chosen to track down a missing woman, when all he wants is his rug. The characters are perfect: "The Dude" and his loser friends. No character is better than Walter Sobchak (John Goodman), an army veteran who loves to remind people of this fact, and who often forgets that he is no longer "in the trenches." The quirks like this one combined with the acting, writing, humor and general disregard for normalcy allows for a spectacularly memorable experience.

CAPIZZI'S CORNER: MODERN CULT CLASSICS

In this issue, Assistant Entertainment Editor Jack Capizzi examines five "modern classics": recent movies that will stand the test of time.

Pulp Fiction: *Pulp Fiction* is awesome. In no other movie would you see John Travolta and Samuel L. Jackson discussing the names of French Cheeseburgers, or get to see Bruce Willis run over Ving Rhames holding a box of donuts. It takes seemingly random story lines and connects them in unforeseen ways. The film spurred iconic phrases such as "Aw man, I shot Marvin in the face" and "Ezekiel 25:17," that are as unique as its characters. It was only Tarantino's second film and established him as one of the greatest directors in film history.



Forrest Gump: The expansive time period covered by *Forrest Gump* is what truly delivers its fan base. The film fascinates audiences by placing Forrest Gump in the Vietnam War, the Civil Rights Movement, the annals of ping pong history, the shrimp business, and many more meandering encounters. However, the audience views all of this through Tom Hanks's deadpan, simple delivery of his lines. This acting creates a window that is not fogged by opinion. You would be hard pressed to find a film in which more happens to a character than what happens to Forrest over the course of the movie. *Forrest Gump* and its following are not going anywhere.



This Is Spinal Tap: *Spinal Tap* has been called the funniest movie of all time. The level of wit and humor that it brought is at such a level that it spawned an entirely new genre, the mockumentary. Written by Christopher Guest, *Spinal Tap* follows the rise and fall of a British rock band. From the names of the band members, such as Nigel Tufnel or David St. Hubbins, all the way to the songs and stories of the band that frequently feature gruesome deaths, the movie just flat out nails it. These qualities have placed the movie in a unique pantheon of comedy.

Mac Miller Brings the Heat

By: Austin Streaty
Staff Writer

Mac Miller is now sober, and it's for the better. The Pittsburgh rapper's recent album releases, *Watching Movies With the Sound Off* and *Faces*, sounded slow, gloomy, and depressed, but with *GO:OD AM*, Mac Miller has completely ditched the old sound of his music and replaced it with a confident, energetic new one. Even though there are some braggadocios and carefree tracks on this album, Miller's maturity as an artist as well as a person is reflected throughout the album.

GO:OD AM kicks off with the beautifully produced "Doors," in which Miller sings that he is "in a better place" after admitting that he has had problems. Following that trick is the soulful "Brand Name," which features Mac Miller flowing effortlessly over a sample heavy beat. In the Mac Miller/ Ab-Soul collaboration "Two Matches," the two rappers work exceptionally well together, harmonizing over a catchy hook about making your

dreams happen and having fun. The lead single from the album, "100 Grandkids," is a standout in the track listing. Miller raps about his mom wanting grandkids, saying, "Made a promise to my mama that I'd bless her with some grandkids, she can spoil them" on the hook, before the song undergoes a beat change into a trap inspired instrumental, on which Miller raps about earning his first "100 grand."

"Perfect Circle/God Speed" is separated into two parts. On "Perfect Circle" (which has a children's choir singing on the hook), Miller raps about his old ways of living and the vices that used to haunt him (drugs, alcohol, womanizing, etc.). The transition into "Godspeed" is a recording of a family member calling to wish Mac happy holidays and to say that he wishes Mac was with his family and not self-indulging, ending the call with "Godspeed." On "God Speed," Mac admits that he has problems and needs to "Wake up, before one morning I don't wake up." The next standout is "Jump,"

in which Miller asks the question, "If I jump, do you think that I can fly?" By asking this question, Miller wonders if he takes a leap of faith in his career, will he be able to succeed and not be another artist who metaphorically falls and doesn't make it.

Overall, *GO:OD AM* is Mac Miller's best project yet. It is deeply personal and more musically explorative than any of Miller's previous work.

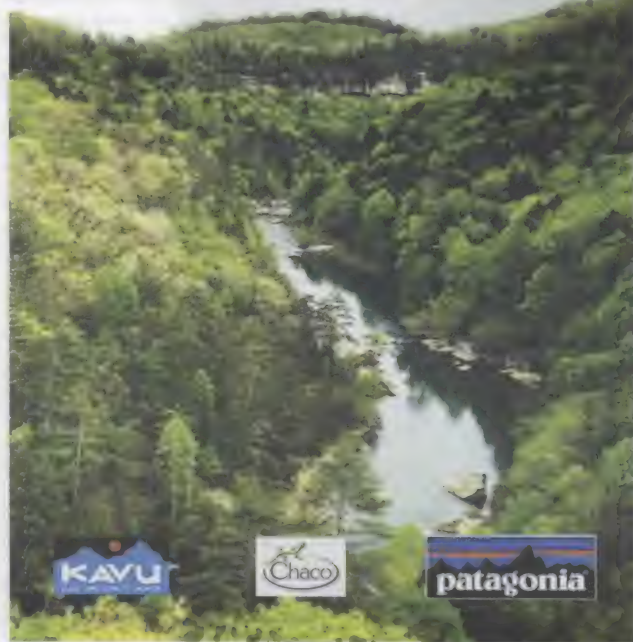
Final verdict: 8/10

Favorite tracks: "Brand Name," "Two Matches," "100 Grandkids," "Weekend," "Break the Law," "Perfect Circle/Godspeed," "When in Rome," "Jump"

Least Favorite track: "Rush Hour"



Cumberland
Transit



SHOWING OUT: Mac is preparing to go on an extensive tour to promote his new album. PHOTO: Complex Magazine



PHOTO: CONCERT.NET



Fans Flock to Live on the Green

By: Hamilton Garber
Staff Writer

The sixth installment of the annual Live on the Green Festival did not disappoint. Every year Lightning 100, the host of the festival, tries to improve on the previous year's showing, and this summer's festival was certainly a reflection of that goal.

Free concerts have become a Nashville staple, and more and more fans have flocked to the front lawn of the Courthouse each year. For Live on the Green 2015, total attendance reached over 300,000, an impressive number of music fanatics from all over the country.

Lightning 100 has the layout of LOTG down to a science. Closing off 2nd Avenue, 3rd Avenue, and Union Street allows for a massive space for food trucks, drink stations, and merchandise venues to set up. The front lawn of Public Square Park, adjacent to the Courthouse, serves as the main spectator area. The stage is constructed in front of the façade, with a large video board on the right. This set-up makes viewing the concerts easy even if one does not arrive early enough to get a front row spot. The ambiance of the park, with the surrounding buildings and view of Nissan Stadium, makes for a unique atmosphere, providing an awesome concert experience without the expensive tickets. The production and atmosphere of Live on the Green are a well-thought-out, top-notch experience.

The lineup every year becomes increasingly more impressive, with past artists including the Wallflowers, Citizen Cope, Michael Franti and Spearhead, Cage the Elephant, Ingrid Michaelson, and the Head and the Heart, to name a few. However,

this year's lineup blew the minds of music lovers all across the city. The initial reveal that Passion Pit, Ben Folds, Rodrigo y Gabriela, Lord Huron, and Cold War Kids would be performing caused a great deal of hype. The later revelation that Moon Taxi, a rising Nashville favorite, would be making an appearance built up excitement even more.

In their Live on the Green debuts, some of the smaller bands more than proved their relevance to the competitive Nashville music scene. Both the Delta Saints and Zella Day put on fantastic live performances, intriguing fans with their original style and stage presence. Houndmouth, on the rise due to their summer hit "Sedona," increased their buzz significantly with an incredibly upbeat show. J Roddy Walston & the Business were my personal favorites of the festival,

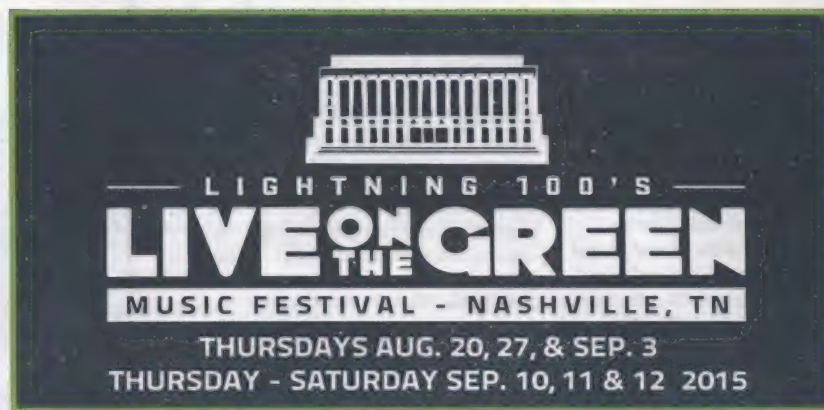
performing garage rock to near-perfection.

The headliners were the most anticipated part of the festival, and they did not disappoint. The first week brought an upbeat performance from alternative artist Lord Huron. I did not know much about him coming into the show but left impressed. The next week brought Cold War Kids, who drew a huge crowd. Lead singer Nathan Willet's wailing vocals definitely left their mark on Nashville. The final week brought the much-anticipated performance of local favorite Moon Taxi, known for their amazing mixture of electronic and rock sounds.

After three strong demonstrations from big names, the closing weekend rolled around. On Thursday, Rodrigo y Gabriela, two incredibly talented Spanish guitarists from Mexico City, performed some astounding instrumental pieces.

Friday night was Passion Pit. Sadly, I could not be there due to the football game, but I heard their experienced DJ, Michael Angelakolos, put on an incredible performance. Ben Folds, a childhood favorite of mine, closed out the festival on Saturday September 12th. Using his self-defined "new pop" style, Folds ended the festival on a high note with his strange but intriguing sounds.

All in all, Live on the Green 2015 was another huge success. One can only hope that Lightning 100 will keep up their efforts in making these amazing concerts free of charge. I highly recommend the festival for any music lover who wants to enjoy one of Nashville's most outstanding music scenes.



THE MASS CONVENE: Colorful lights illuminate the Courthouse as thousands of people situate themselves to view The Cold War Kids. Food and merchandise trucks set up on the outside edges. **PHOTO:** NashvilleGuru



The Weeknd Does Not Disappoint

By: Call Bainbridge
Staff Writer

In the past few weeks, Abel Tesfaye, aka The Weeknd, has been on the top of the world. His newest album *Beauty Behind the Madness* has hit #1 on Billboard's Top 200 album list, and every single song is charting in the iTunes top 100. You could easily say Abel is at the top of his game.

Before now, people only knew The Weeknd as a background voice on a handful of popular songs, with a few hits of his own, including "Wicked Games," "The Zone" (Feat. Drake), and "Earned It." He was appreciated but did not get the credit he fully deserved. But after scoring it big with hits such as "The Hills," "Often," and "Can't Feel My Face," he has finally started to garner recognition.

The album's singles, "The Hills," "Often," and "Can't Feel My Face," were instant hits. Anyone can relate to each of those songs, or at least connect in a positive way. In addition, I think there is a song for everyone on this album. While placed in the "R&B" genre, each song is different from the others, producing an amazing album.

The opener, "Real Life," is one of my favorites. It starts the album

off on a fast-paced note, leaving the listener on the edge of his seat to hear the next song, "Losers" (Feat. Labrinth), which sets a mellow tone, yet has an even faster-paced chorus which leaves the listener hooked for the rest of the album.

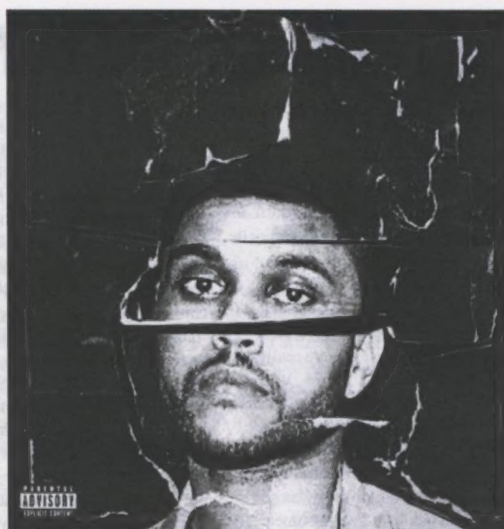
The Weeknd packs all of his single hits together in the middle of the album, showing his confidence in the second half of his work. Despite the strong beginning, I don't love the end of the album. "Earned It" and "In the Night" are solid, but the album starts to drag, with songs including "As You Are," "Dark Times" (Feat. Ed Sheeran), and "Prisoner" (Feat. Lana Del Rey).

Lana Del Rey could be a perfect match for The Weeknd as far as making music goes, as I believe she can really match his energy and message in music; however, I was unimpressed on their collaboration. "Prisoner" is dull and is not a typical Abel song, and the same goes for "Dark Times."

With that being said, the album closes strongly with "Angel." The song is lower in energy, yet is soothing instead of dull and was still a rollercoaster of emotion, which is very typical of an Abel song.

All in all, I strongly recommend this album. R&B is not

always my first choice when it comes to genre, but I was hooked after the first two tracks, already having been attracted by the singles released prior to the album. There's a song for each and every kind of music lover, making the album extremely varied, a rare trait among many modern records. With this being only his 2nd studio album, there is even more hope for the future from Abel



Tesfaye. There's a reason for the critical acclaim of *Beauty Behind the Madness*, and I encourage people to discover that reason for themselves.

10 Years of Late Registration

By: Werner Bradshaw
Staff Writer

August 30, 2015 marked the ten year anniversary of one of the best hip-hop albums of the new millennium, Kanye West's *Late Registration*.

Prior to his solo debut, *The College Dropout*, Kanye was an established producer for many hip-hop artists, most notably Jay-Z. Despite his success as a producer, however, many people doubted Kanye's ability as a rapper during the recording and prior to the release of his first solo album. *The College Dropout* silenced that doubt, winning the Grammy for Best Rap Album and establishing Kanye as one of the best rappers in the game.

Late Registration is thus an affirmation of Kanye's lyrical talent as well as his musical genius. Kanye's collaboration with film composer Jon Brion allows for

a more intricate production than *The College Dropout*, blending West's characteristic soulful style with unique instrumentation and sampling. Kanye makes great strides lyrically while still preserving the distinct flow he mastered on his last album.

The album boasts a strong feature list, with artists Nas, Cam'Ron, Jamie Foxx, Paul Wall, Common, and Jay-Z all making guest appearances. Some of *The*

Bell Ringer's favorite tracks include "Touch the Sky," "Gold Digger," and "Diamonds from the Sierra Leone." This album earned the Grammy for Best Rap Album in 2006 and a nomination for Album of the Year, and was certified triple platinum by the Recording Industry Association of America.

These accolades, however, do not measure the profound impact this album had on Kanye's career and the music industry as a whole, as

it introduced West not as one of the best rappers of his generation, but one of the best of all time.



Freshmen Still Can't Locate Davis Building

By: Gibby Gibson
The Man with Many Names

The ninth grade had an eventful first mid-quarter. Unsurprisingly, the freshmen once again beat every grade in asking their Homecoming dates first. That has to be the most surprising fact you've ever heard. The decorated signs and cheesy puns were really first class.

In other areas, the class has been very busy. At a frighteningly early morning ceremony, freshmen received their MBA patches. In athletics, the football team has not dropped a game. A few freshmen have gotten some playing time in the varsity games as well.

The biggest event these early weeks of the year was the election of class officers. As election day approached and deadlines grew close, many petitions were returned to Ms. Holmgren within a span of just two class periods. As the day came for speeches, every

candidate brought their A-Game. For president, **Luke Bernatavitz** won the vote with his speech, which emphasized his experience for the job. As vice president, **John Curry** promised to keep the service in the ninth grade at an all-time high. Even though **Adrie "ATG100" Kimbrough** claimed that he was a rapper and a leader, **Nikhil Peterson** won the vote for secretary. And as treasurer, **Marshal Sumar** won the vote by promising to give us paintball mixers and an indoor football field. We'll see how that turns out for him. In addition, the student council speeches showed a lot of potential. **Henry Hylbert** showed he would be a good leader by doing his entire speech in French. He's one heck of a guy. **Bennett Blackwell's** speech was about a tightrope club, and it looked promising—until he ran out of time.

Overall, the Freshmen have had a great start to what promises to be a great year.



IS HIS NAME ANDREW OR GIBBY?: Andrew "Gibby" Gibson continues to make plays in the world of chicken.

Juniors Begin College Visits; Early Commitments Made

By: Josh Key and William Porter
Snapchat Extraordinaires

The first mid-quarter has come and gone, and we're getting into the thick of junior year. As this new year has come upon us, there have been a few changes that we would like to address.

My goodness! Where are our manners? We haven't even introduced ourselves yet! I'm sure you all remember how the former author of these articles used to put you into uncontrollable fits of laughter last year, but sadly, he has gone AWOL since the last article. There have been reports circulating around that he was last seen at **Mack Smithing's** pool, but we are still waiting on those rumors to be confirmed.

Alas, back to the topic at hand. Times have changed, and speaking of changes, we'd like to take this time to give a shoutout to someone who you've been sleeping on these past years: **Jarrett "What Are Those?" Knight**. "J-Knight" has undergone one of the single most impressive "glow-ups" of this generation. Whether it be his breath-taking appearance in a seersucker suit, his countless Snapchat stories critiquing unsuspecting victims on their choice of

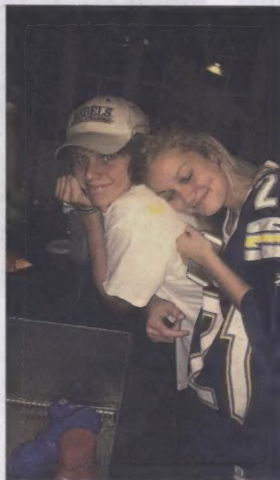
shoes, or his prowess on the court, @JayKnight429 will surely be a contestant for the coveted Best Boy award this year.

It wouldn't be a class of 2017 article without mentioning the god among men himself, **Will "I Have a Shrine Built of You in my Room" Hoffman**. He remains semi-insecure, but is working his way to gain some courage to ask a Homecoming date. Will has been quite busy these past few weeks pioneering a trend known as "Sleeping in My Driveway." Will started this trend over the summer, and it has grown ever since. The first time Will ever "slept in his driveway" was after an innocent night of "hanging" with a few members of the Class of 2015. Will took a peaceful snooze in his driveway that July evening, and has been raving about it ever since. Keep checking in with Will on what big thing he's been up to lately. (Side note: we were informed by the former author of this article that the more times we mention Will, the funnier it gets, so expect to hear more on our dear friend Will.)

In case you haven't heard from every player on the team, the football team is off to an undefeated, 5-0 start. With contributions from LSU commit **Derrick "Shuttlesworth" Payne** at running back, Stanford commit **Austin**

Streaty at long snapper, and **Jackson "You would've done the same thing" Maradik** at quarterback. These guys are balling, and we hope they keep it up.

In closing, we would like to take a moment to mention our classmate **Sam Garrett** as he goes through a tough battle with cancer. If you have a moment, please try to call, text, or visit him. It would very much make his day. Stay strong, Sam. Roll Red.



TAKING CARE OF BUSINESS: Jack Hayles, pictured with Sarah Johnson, certainly has his priorities straight.



GOOD CLEAN FUN: Connor, Drew, Mac and Addie certainly had fun at the Cherub.



Sophomores Prepare for Homecoming AfterParty

By: Ty Allen and Philip Scholer
Masters of Humor

The school year has started in outstanding fashion for the sophomores. Academically, everyone is working hard not only to stay awake during history class, but also to "remember" what their summer reading was about.

Athletics are also going extremely well. For football, **Ben Frigon** has tremendously improved on scout team, and unfortunately **Cord Wilson** is sometimes hurt. The rifle team traveled to Oxford, Alabama for a tournament in which sophomore **Ben Wassinger** was the top shooter on the team. Also, the basketball team is working hard to improve their skills. **Ford Brewer** has been giving it his all not to throw up after every practice.

On a different note, Homecoming has been a big topic of concern for the

sophomores. Class stud **Palmer Thombs** started the domino effect by being the first person to ask his date. It is said that Palmer's date looks great, even at 11:45pm. Although the love of **Ben Frigon**'s life moved to Nebraska (not a coincidence), there is no need to worry, because they will get married one day. **Cal Bryan** called his date to ask her to Homecoming, but **Will Nutter** decided that that wasn't good enough, so he stepped in and told this girl he would actually show her a good time. There was much confusion, and who knows what happened? **Jack Heflin** is scared to ask his girlfriend to "HC" because he can't decide how well **Wes Hall** knows her (Yes, He did). No one knows if **Jackson Abbey** actually texted his date to ask her, but we do know that he didn't text anyone to get his Yeti back. **Philip Scholer** may have lost in ping pong, but at least he won in scoring a great homecoming date. **Rob Harvey**

got mad at his Homecoming date for having a little too much fun, but Rob proved he is a gentleman in forgiving her. **Zach Smith** is struggling to find a date, because he recently broke up with his freshman girlfriend. If he needs any help to recover from this loss, I'm sure he can speak to **Parker "ILP" Bowen**; he is an expert in the 9th grade department.

In other unrelated news, **Tayshaun Munoz** claims that he is never mentioned in the class news, so here you are, Tayshaun. Christmas came early this year for Ty and Wes. Some students think it's funny to back out of a girl's driveway speedily, especially when running from her older brother.

Roll Red!



EXPANDING HIS HORIZONS: Brawner Smith has been making lots of friends at new schools! Good for him!

Seniors Beg for Recommendation Letters

By: Nolan Spear
The Godfather

It's not easy to be the best. It really isn't. The Senior Class knows this, but we've still found a way to make it work. This first quarter has been difficult, however. College application deadlines are looming large, and the words "Early Action" haunt a boy's ears night and day. We are tasked with answering questions concerning our "lifetime goals," our "extracurricular activities," and pieces of art that "moved us." To say the least, it has been a quarter full of self-reflection.

But despite the tough academic

WHERE'S ANSLEY?: Sam Smith loves college.



environment, we seniors take solace in the unique aspects of campus life. I know that whenever I'm standing on the track on Friday nights, playing weird music and watching our football team dominate, the sight of **JC Fogg** bending down low to the field in an aggressive three-point stance wakes me up a little bit, and makes me glad to go to a place like MBA. Or when I'm just leaving campus after a long day of classes, and I see **Michael Mappes** walking towards his car, I'm confident in the future of our nation. Moments like these cause me to reflect on senior year, and how short our time together really is.

But anyway, on to the activities of our class. Academically, we're hanging in there. As **Peter Briggs** can tell you, classes like AP Environmental Science can really ruin one's day. One benefit to a class like APES, however, is the field trips to Percy Warner. But from what I could discern from Snapchat stories, a certain class's most recent trip transformed into a photo-shoot in the forest. We'll see how those boys battle the ways of Mr. Chenery for the rest of the semester.

On the social front, the talk is all college. I recently took a trip down the University of Alabama with a few of my MBA brethren, and came away impressed. I was particularly fascinated by the endurance of **Russell "24-Ounce Curly" McGinn**, who managed to survive back to back weekends at Alabama and Ole Miss, all while avoiding being forced to run through the fountain in Alabama's quad. **McGinn** and **Stephen Theo Richey**



"GUS": QB1 stays lowkey as he looks to lead the Big Red to a 7-0 record tonight.

took a trip to Oxford with a "Snake" this past weekend, but managed to lose their tour guide on Saturday night. The duo still made it home in time to do homework on Sunday, however. Sources say **Nick Dreher** was also present in Tuscaloosa. I didn't see much of him, but from what I've heard, he may or may not have gotten a bid at "FIGI." **Winston Hewett** was just there for the vibes, man. He's a big college guy.

On the football field, we're balling. **Glenn Coleman** has been a force to be reckoned with, and his chemistry with **Parker Bryan** is second to none. Speaking of Glenn and chemistry, the guy continues to be active in the world of women. As I predicted in previous issues, Glenn has used his status as "QB1" to make some serious strides on the Harpeth Hall basketball team. **David Gaw** and **Sam Sullivan** have been two of my favorite players to watch this season, with David absolutely living up to the "D-Booty" nickname, and Sully killing the game with his celebrations. **Karlton Bruton** continues to score touchdowns, while also possessing great hair. **Joseph**

Scowden is a new face to MBA, I actually have yet to meet him, so if you see him around shake his hand and welcome him to the campus. **John Kelly** continues to be an amazing guy. **Clarke Allen** can't wait to get back on to the field, but I know he will miss dancing to "Everytime We Touch" on the sidelines.

Speaking of Homecoming, this is it for the boys. One last forced picture session, one last overpriced dinner, one last 30-minutes-or-less stay at the dance, and one final weird after-party. Our final Homecoming should be as good as it gets. At this point, we all know the drill. Ask a girl you know, get that prime dinner location, and make sure to keep things high and tight. Also, make sure to wear compression shorts.

Our time will come, boys. Application season is upon us, so go the extra mile to make those first semester grades good. I can't wait to see all the weird stuff we accomplish once Christmas Break rolls around. Hail **Yavin Alwis**, and Roll Red.

CASTING THE MBA AVENGERS

By: Nolan Spear and Peter Taylor
Staff Comic Enthusiasts

We here at *The Bell Ringer* think it's fair to say that 98% of you saw the newest Avengers movie over the summer. The other two percent were probably just doing summer reading. With that being said, upon viewing that flick, our staff of writers saw some easy connections between Marvel's greatest heroes and some of our own heroes here on MBA's campus. The connections weren't always easy to find, but they exist nonetheless. So folks, sit down, take a few bites of your Sage-approved pasta, and enjoy *The Bell Ringer's* cast of *The Avengers*.

Captain America

Patriotic. Physically and mentally tough. Outstanding body. Looks great in a swimsuit. These are just a few character qualities of Captain America, and here on MBA's campus, there is just one man who fits this role: Colonel Sharbel. Every superhero team needs a strong leader of astounding patriotism to lead them in their heroic defense of the nation, and Colonel Sharbel does just that here on MBA's campus. With nearly twenty years of intense military service behind him, it's hard to understand how he puts up with the foolishness he encounters daily at MBA. There's only one logical answer: Colonel Sharbel is a super-soldier. Just look at him one day in the dining hall. He stands up perfectly straight, can always make himself heard, possesses superhuman strength and eyesight, and the Mother's Club loves him. Colonel Sharbel is Captain America. All he has to do now is accept his fate. Within the next two years, Mr. Gioia will freeze him in a block of ice, resurrecting him every few decades to revive the Duke of Edinburg program, and lead a fresh crop of Men of Character "Luncheons."

Iron Man

What a tough casting job. Iron Man has in many ways always been the odd man out of the Avengers, separated by his practically inhuman genius and dominating personality. He is fabulously



wealthy, educated at the finest universities, and possesses a constant air of mystery. On MBA's campus, only one man is as forceful of a presence to the Hill as Iron Man is to the Avengers: Mr. Lanier. While Tony Stark sells weapons and energy sources to pay for The Avengers' costly escapades, Lanier's thrifty nature and the handsome profits from his Oriental rug vending are more than enough to support the endeavors of the MBA Avengers. It has even been said that he is plotting the creation of our own version of Stark Tower down by the Lacrosse Field: "The Leaning Tower of Lanier." Besides possessing Tony Stark-like qualities, Coach Lanier is also a literal Iron Man. No one knows how old he is truly is, and he walks as if it would take a thousand bullets to knock him down. While Iron Man can use a voice-scrambler to disguise his identity behind the mask, all Coach Lanier has to do is speak, and the listener is confused. His vocabulary operates at no normal human frequency and without regard for traditional English grammar or vocabulary. This could not be an accident. *The Bell Ringer* investigative team has no doubt that Coach Lanier is Iron Man.

The Incredible Hulk

Though Bruce Banner is a quiet, mild mannered, and somewhat socially awkward scientist whose anger is only triggered by an excess of gamma radiation, the only gamma radiation

MBA's Hulk, Coach Shone, needs is the sound of Harold Turks chewing gum. When that sound enters his ears, he transforms from a brilliant calculus instructor

to a raging, green faced monster, throwing Expo markers left and right and screaming curse-words at Facebook advertisements. If you pass by Coach Shone, the words "Incredible Hulk" may not enter your brain. However, sit down with him in class for one day and you will understand this comparison. The Hulk is known for his inability to speak at a normal human volume, and Coach Shone is no different. He literally yells everything he says. A simple "Good Morning" in Shone-Speak translates to, "UM, GOOD MORNING." Aside from inability to control the volume of his voice, Coach Shone's physical presence gives him Hulk-like qualities. He is an unbelievable wrestler, and probably the last person on campus I would want to fight. He is an unstoppable force in Lowry Hall, and when he gets mad, even Coach Sharbel's whispers of sweet nothings into his ears are able to calm him down.

Thor

Thor is without a doubt one of the more unique members of the Avengers. He possesses superhuman strength, a heightened intellect, otherworldly origins, and an unbelievable head of hair. All of these qualities, and more, put only one faculty name into our heads: Mr. Golenor. It all starts with the conversations. When Mr. Golenor wants to talk to you, you know what's coming. He looks you straight in the eye, picks your brain, and always seems to be a step ahead. Like Thor, he possesses a weapon of choice: his boomerang. Like Thor's hammer, it is always present with him, and makes a great comb for whenever he wants to adjust his gorgeous flow. Like Thor, Mr. Golenor possesses a vehicle to another galaxy: his VW bug. No one knows where it came from, no one knows where it goes, but it's always around.

Black Widow

Black Widow is the voice of reason in the male-dominated Avengers. She's levelheaded, will stand up to anyone, and loves to get the job done. No one

fits that bill more than Ms. Annie B. Williams. Just as the Black Widow uses her incredible deadlines and sly stealth as an undercover agent and assassin, Annie B. Williams holds MBA together behind the scenes without most people's knowing. At service projects, she's the silent agent of change, making sure everything is executed perfectly. If you cross her path, she'll cut you down, not taking any prisoners.

Hawkeye

There are few better comparisons on MBA's campus that Ronnie McMahan and Hawkeye. Hawkeye and Mr. McMahan are both pure snipers at their cores. They're both different from most sharpshooters: Hawkeye uses a bow-and-arrow, while Coach Mac uses his sharp eyesight and deep voice. Hawkeye combats alien warriors from another galaxy, while Coach Mac has his sights set closer to the ground, targeting the unsuspecting student checking ESPN in the hallway or the senior texting his girlfriend on the senior patio. Hawkeye can go rough at times, capable of handling a massive crowd of assailants



one by one. Coach Mac holds down the Big Red Room solo most days of the week, while his office counterpart Colonel Sharbel, aka Captain America, battles other foes. But both Hawkeye and Coach Mac maintain a true aim and strong sense of duty to their team, whether it's the Avengers or the Commodores.

Nick Fury

Though Captain America may be the team leader on the battlefield, Nick Fury is the one-eyed, cool-headed administrator that coordinates the team's movements wherever they are needed. Mr. Gioia is this man, and though he may lack Nick Fury's eyepatch and dark trenchcoat, he makes up for it in his perfectly-pressed suits and shined loafers. Though Mr. Gioia may not always be on the front lines of battle, he oversees the school's progress from the bridge of his floating aircraft carrier, which appears at the touch of a button underneath his desk. Whether he's in China on a conference or just taking some trustees up to get aerial view of the Dining Hall, G Money is always scheming up the best ways to unite his Avengers together.

